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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/689,927	10/12/2000	Abha Lessing	16517-3	7458

7590   07/08/2004

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RECEIVED

JUL 1 3 2004

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EXAMINER
CAMPBELL, JOSHUA D

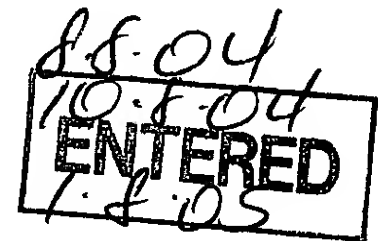| ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2178	

DATE MAILED: 07/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

08-04
10-7-04
ENTERED
7-8-05

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _12 October 2000_.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.** 2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-97_ is/are pending in the application.
    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) _1-97_ is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _12 October 2000_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _3 and 4_.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications: Application filed on 10/12/2000 and

IDSs filed 10/12/2000 and 05/13/2002.

2.   Claims 1-97 are pending in this case. Claims 1, 11, 12, 22, 23, 33, 34, 54, 74,

and 94 are independent claims.

Drawings

3.   The drawings were received on 10/12/2000. These drawings are accepted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5.   Claims 1-7, 12-18, and 23-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Dolan et al. (hereinafter Dolan, US Patent Number 5,963,208, issued on

October 5, 1999).

Regarding independent claim 1, Dolan discloses a method in which a

predefined portion is displayed in a first display region (Figure 1, 104 of Dolan). Dolan

also discloses a method in which a point is displayed in a multidimensional space for

said predefined portion (Figure 1, 102 of Dolan).

Regarding dependent claims 2 and 3, Dolan discloses a method in which a second point is displayed in the display region and information regarding the second point may be shown in the second display region (Figure 1, 102 of Dolan).

Regarding dependent claim 4-7, Dolan discloses a method in which any number of points and any number of axis derived from the first point may be displayed in two display regions, making it possible to navigate among the points and having the ability to return to the first (anchor) point (Figure 1, 102 and 104 of Dolan).

Regarding independent claim 12 and dependent claims 13-18, the claims incorporate substantially similar subject matter as claims 1-7. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 1-7.

Regarding independent claim 23 and dependent claims 24-29, the claims incorporate substantially similar subject matter as claims 1-7. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 1-7.

6.   Claims 34-35, 37-38, 43-44, 47, 54-55, 57-58, 63-64, 67, 74-75, 77-78, 83-84, and 87 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fay (US Patent Number 5,892,513, issued on April 6, 1999).

Regarding independent claim 34, Fay discloses a method in which predefined portions are stored in terminal nodes (Figure 1 and 2 of Fay). Fay also discloses a method in which one or more higher-level nodes are used to organize the terminal nodes, in which all nodes include the identity of a parent node, a position indicator, and an identifier (Figure 3 and 4 of Fay).

Regarding dependent claim 35, Fay discloses a method in which the highest-

level node has a null parent identity (column 3, line 46-column 4, line 23 of Fay).

Regarding dependent claim 37, Fay discloses a method in which a position

indicator indicates a position of a higher-level node relative to a sibling node (Figure 3

and 4, "link clusters" and "parent nodes" of Fay).

Regarding dependent claim 38, Fay discloses a method in which a modified

portion can be stored at a node (column 2, line 60-column 3, 46 of Fay).

Regarding dependent claim 43, Fay discloses a method in which all nodes

include the identity of a parent node, a position indicator, and an identifier (Figure 3 and

4 of Fay).

Regarding dependent claim 44, Fay discloses a method in which a position

indicator indicates a position of a terminal node relative to a sibling node (Figure 3 and

4, "link clusters" and "child nodes" of Fay).

Regarding dependent claim 47, Fay discloses a method in which a modified

and predefined portions can be stored at the terminal nodes (column 2, line 60-column

3, 46 of Fay).

Regarding independent claim 54 and dependent claims 55, 57-58, 63-64,

and 67, the claims incorporate substantially similar subject matter as claims 34-35, 37-

38, 43-44, and 47. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 34-

35, 37-38, 43-44, and 47.

Regarding independent claim 74 and dependent claims 75, 77-78, 83-84,

and 87, the claims incorporate substantially similar subject matter as claims 34-35, 37-

38, 43-44, and 47. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 34-35, 37-38, 43-44, and 47.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

8.   This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

9.   Claims 9, 20, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dolan et al. (hereinafter Dolan, US Patent Number 5,963,208, issued on October 5, 1999).

Regarding dependent claims 9, 20, and 31, Dolan discloses a method for providing easy navigation in a document based on document portions. Dolan does not

disclose that the document in question is a provision of legislation. However, as shown

by the inventor on Page 1, lines 8-22 of the specification a provision of legislation is a

document that is hard to navigate that contains many sections (Acts). It would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

have used the method of Dolan with a provision of legislation because it would have

provided an easier method of document navigation.

10.   Claims 8, 10-11, 19, 21-22, 30, and 32-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

as being unpatentable over Dolan et al. (hereinafter Dolan, US Patent Number

5,963,208, issued on October 5, 1999) as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view

of Weinberg et al. (hereinafter Weinberg, US Patent Number 6,144,962, filed on April

11, 1997).

Regarding dependent claim 8, Dolan does not disclose a method in which time

based versions of documents are shown on the axis. However, Weinberg discloses a

method in which time based versions of documents and document portions are shown

as part of a document map on an axis (Figure 1 and column 23, line 39-column 24, line

25 of Weinberg). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Dolan and Weinberg

because it would have allowed for a user to view up-to-date information at all times.

Regarding dependent claim 10, Dolan does not disclose a method in which an

axis represents search criteria and results corresponding to a portion. However,

Weinberg discloses a method in which the portions on the axis can exist as the results

of searches or queries (column 17, line 54-column 18, line 54 of Weinberg). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Dolan and Weinberg because it would have allowed users easier navigation of Internet search related documents.

Regarding dependent claim 11, Dolan discloses a method in which at least on based point, at least a first axis depending from base point, and a further point and an axis derived from the said base point are all displayed (Figure 1, 102 of Dolan). Dolan also discloses a method in which the user may navigate the multidimensional space and return to the said base point when necessary (Figure 1, 102 of Dolan). Dolan does not disclose a method in which a view comprises at least two anchor sets or the ability to adjust the view point to become the new base point. However, Weinberg discloses a method in which multiple anchor sets may be viewed, and that at any time the based point may be changed to a different view point (Figures 1-3 of Weinberg). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Dolan and Weinberg because it would have allowed navigation of multiple document structures from one view space.

Regarding dependent claims 19 and 21-22, the claims incorporate substantially similar subject matter as claims 8 and 10-11. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 8 and 10-11.

Regarding dependent claims 30 and 32-33, the claims incorporate substantially similar subject matter as claims 8 and 10-11. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 8 and 10-11.

11.   Claims 36, 45, 50-53, 56, 65, 70-73, 76, 85, and 90-97 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fay (US Patent Number 5,892,513, issued on

April 6, 1999) as applied to claim 34 above, and further in view of McIntosh (US Patent

Number 6,185,576, filed on October 21, 1998).

Regarding dependent claim 36, Fay does not disclose a method in which a

portion is associated with a time during which it is valid. However, McIntosh discloses a

method in which documents are associated with a scope, which defines when they are

valid (column 31, line 21-column 46, line 45 of McIntosh). It would have been obvious

to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined

the methods of Fay and McIntosh because it would have allowed easier management of

time sensitive material.

Regarding dependent claim 46, Fay discloses a method in which a node is

identified by its identifier (Figure 3 and 4). Fay does not disclose a method in which the

terminal node is identified based on a combination of identifier and scope. McIntosh

discloses a method in which documents are associated with a scope, which defines

when they are valid, thus blocking access when the validity has expired, which provides

navigation based both on ID and scope (column 31, line 21-column 46, line 45 of

McIntosh). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have combined the methods of Fay and McIntosh because it

would have provided preventative measures blocking users from viewing expired

materials.

Regarding dependent claim 50, Fay discloses a method for providing easy navigation in a document based on document portions. Fay does not disclose that the document in question is commentary. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used the method of Fay with a commentary document because it was well known at the time the invention was made that documents could contain commentary and the method of Fay is directed to all general document.

Regarding dependent claim 51-53 and 95, Fay does not disclose a method in which a portion contains a scope that includes a start date, end date, and an update date that is in between the start and end date. However, McIntosh discloses a method in which a document has a scope, which includes a start date, an expiration (end) date, and an update date that exists in between the start and expiration date (column 31, line 21-column 46, line 45 of McIntosh). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Fay and McIntosh because it would have allowed easier management of time sensitive material.

Regarding dependent claims 56, 65, 70-73, and 96, the claims incorporate substantially similar subject matter as claims 36, 45, 50-53, and 95. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 36, 45, 50-53, and 95.

Regarding dependent claims 76, 85, 90-93, and 97, the claims incorporate substantially similar subject matter as claims 36, 45, 50-53, and 95. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 36, 45, 50-53, and 95.

Regarding independent claim 94, Fay discloses a method in which predefined

portions are stored in terminal nodes (Figure 1 and 2 of Fay). Fay also discloses a

method in which one or more higher-level nodes are used to organize the terminal

nodes, in which all nodes include the identity of a parent node, a position indicator, and

an identifier (Figure 3 and 4 of Fay). Fay discloses a method for providing easy

navigation in a document based on document portions. Fay does not disclose that the

document in question is commentary. However, it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used the method of

Fay with a commentary document because it was well known at the time the invention

was made that documents could contain commentary and the method of Fay is directed

to all general document.

Also, Fay does not disclose a method in which a portion contains a scope that

includes a start date, end date, and an update date that is in between the start and end

date. However, McIntosh discloses a method in which a document has a scope, which

includes a start date, an expiration (end) date, and an update date that exists in

between the start and expiration date (column 31, line 21-column 46, line 45 of

McIntosh). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have combined the methods of Fay and McIntosh because it

would have allowed easier management of time sensitive material.

12.   Claims 39-40, 59-60, and 79-80 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Fay (US Patent Number 5,892,513, issued on April 6, 1999) as

applied to claim 34 above, and further in view of Chau et al. (hereinafter Chau, US

Patent Application Publication Number 2002/0133484, filing date of December 2, 1999).

Regarding dependent claims 39 and 40, Fay does not disclose a method in

which the portions correspond to flat file records in a database or that XML data is

divided into portions and placed into those flat files. However, Chau discloses a method

in which XML is broken into portions and stored into flat file records in a database, and

when that file is requested the portions are retrieved form the flat file database record

(page 4, paragraph 0074-page 5, paragraph 0082 of Chau). It would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have

combined the method of Fay with the method of Chau because it would have provided a

uniform way to store document portions.

Regarding dependent claims 59 and 60, the claims incorporate substantially

similar subject matter as claims 39 and 40. Thus, the claims are rejected along the

same rationale as claims 39 and 40.

Regarding dependent claims 79 and 80, the claims incorporate substantially

similar subject matter as claims 39 and 40. Thus, the claims are rejected along the

same rationale as claims 39 and 40.

13.   Claims 41-42, 48-49, 61-62, 68-69, 81-82, and 88-89 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fay (US Patent Number 5,892,513, issued on

April 6, 1999) as applied to claim 34 above, and further in view of Chau et al.

(hereinafter Chau, US Patent Application Publication Number 2002/0133484, filing date

of December 2, 1999) as applied to claims 40 and 43 above, and further in view of

Dolan et al. (hereinafter Dolan, US Patent Number 5,963,208, issued on October 5,

1999).

Regarding dependent claims 41 and 42, neither Fay nor Chau disclose a

method in which a terminal node contains a label of the publication or that label data is

associated with a higher-level node. However, Dolan discloses a method in which a

terminal node includes a label of the publication that is associated with a higher-level

node (Figure 7 of Dolan). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art

at the time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Fay and Dolan

because it would have allowed the terminal nodes to exist more independently.

Regarding dependent claim 48 and 49, neither Fay nor Chau disclose a

method in which a terminal node contains a label of the publication or that label data is

associated with a higher-level node. However, Dolan discloses a method in which a

terminal node includes a label of the publication that is associated with a higher-level

node (Figure 7 of Dolan). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art

at the time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Fay and Dolan

because it would have allowed the terminal nodes to exist more independently.

Regarding dependent claims 61-62 and 68-69, the claims incorporate

substantially similar subject matter as claims 41-42 and 48-49. Thus, the claims are

rejected along the same rationale as claims 41-42 and 48-49.

Regarding dependent claims 81-82 and 88-89, the claims incorporate substantially similar subject matter as claims 41-42 and 48-49. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 41-42 and 48-49.

14.   Claims 46, 66, and 86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fay (US Patent Number 5,892,513, issued on April 6, 1999) as applied to claim 34 above, and further in view of McIntosh (US Patent Number 6,185,576, filed on October 21, 1998) as applied to claim 36 above, and further in view of Weinberg et al. (hereinafter Weinberg, US Patent Number 6,144,962, filed on April 11, 1997).

Regarding dependent claims 46, neither Fay nor McIntosh disclose a method in which a higher-level nodes scope is dependent upon on or more descendant nodes and their scopes. However, Weinberg discloses a method in which the scope (validity based on need for update) of all nodes in an anchor sets can be dependent on the need to update a single terminal node (Figure 1 and column 23, line 39-column 24, line 25 of Weinberg). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the methods of Fay and Weinberg because it would have insured the user was viewing the most up-to-date document structure.

Regarding dependent claims 66, the claims incorporate substantially similar subject matter as claims 46. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 45-46.

Regarding dependent claims 86, the claims incorporate substantially similar subject matter as claims 46. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same rationale as claims 46

Conclusion

15.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

US Patent Number 5,935,210

US Patent Number 6,189,019
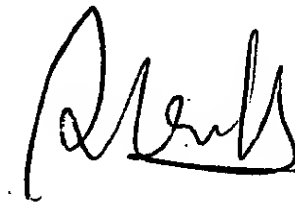
US Patent Number 6,584,480

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua D Campbell whose telephone number is (703)305-5764. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM - 4:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on (703)308-5186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JDC
June 25, 2004

STEPHEN S. HONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER